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Aug. 17, 2006

For immediate release

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WyMD-06-88

Wyo. National Guard survey results show positive command climate

CHEYENNE – Wyoming National Guard follow-up command climate survey results show most of the Soldiers and Airmen in the organization believe the Wyoming National Guard is a strong organization.

Of the more than 2,700 people surveyed, 89 percent responded they were satisfied with their experience in the Wyoming National Guard, up 7 percent from the 2003 survey.

Maj. Gen. Ed Wright, Wyoming's adjutant general, ordered the follow-up survey after the initial survey in 2003. "We wanted to follow up the 2003 survey to see if the results were moving in the right direction," Wright said. "I believe the survey shows we are doing just that."

Other highlights of the survey include:

- 89 percent of Soldiers surveyed believe unit promotions are handled fairly; 79 percent of Airmen surveyed believed the same.
- 93 percent of Soldiers and 97 percent of Airmen surveyed believe their family appreciates their service.
- 92 percent of Airmen believe they are prepared to do their job in combat; 91 percent of Soldiers believe the same.

The survey also was designed to help Wright and Army and Air National Guard command pinpoint areas of concern.

Those areas include:

- 13 percent of Airmen surveyed answered they would not report an incident of sexual harassment or racial discrimination; 14 percent of Soldiers surveyed answered the same.
- 2 percent of Soldiers responded they have been subject to racial discrimination in their unit; 1 percent of Airmen surveyed responded the same.
- 1 percent of Airmen responded they have been sexually harassed by a Guard member; 4 percent of Soldiers surveyed responded the same.

“Any indication, no matter how small, of racial discrimination or sexual harassment is unacceptable,” Wright said. “The organization will find a way to ensure we get closer to our goal of zero tolerance. We also are working on ways to ensure people feel safe to report incidents where they feel offended.”

The survey was taken by 53 percent of Wyoming Air National Guard personnel and 74 percent of Wyoming Army National Guard personnel. Response rates were down slightly from 2003 because units and individual members were deployed during the assessment period.

Wright said he plans to survey the organization again after measures taken to correct areas of concern have been implemented at the unit, organization and agency levels to determine their effectiveness.

The complete survey is available at <http://www.wy.ngb.army.mil/pao/survey.pdf>.